

# **DODGE COUNTY UW EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **March 14, 2016**

The Dodge County UW-Extension Education Committee met on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the UW-Extension conference room 1C at the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Behl called Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with the following members present: Allen Behl, Gerald Adelmeyer, Ed Nelson, Annette Thompson and Darrell Pollesch.

**Also, present:** Jeff Hoffman, Community Development Educator and Co-Department Head, Marie Witzel, 4-H Youth Development Agent and Co-Department Head, Pattie Carroll, Family Living Educator, Bonnie Borden, Youth Dairy & Livestock Educator and Amanda Young, Dairy & Livestock Agent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Nelson, seconded by Thompson to approve minutes for Tuesday, February 16, 2016; Motion by Adelmeyer, seconded by Behl to approve minutes for Wednesday, February 17, 2016 meetings. Motions carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ALLOW THE CHAIRMAN TO GO OUT OF ORDER AS NEEDED TO EFFICIENTLY CONDUCT THE MEETING:** Motion by Pollesch, seconded by Thompson to approve agenda and for Chairman to go out of order. Motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS:**

Behl reported on his trip to the Columbia County UW-Extension Committee meeting that he attended on March 7, 2016 to hear updates from Chancellor Sandeen.

**APPROVAL OF PER DIEMS:** Motion by Nelson, seconded by Adelmeyer to approve the regular meeting per diems for March 14, 2016; Fond du Lac Special Meeting for February 17, 2016 and Behl for UW-Extension Meeting in Columbia County (Portage office) on March 7, 2016.

**REVIEW OF BILLS** Review of the UW-Extension revenues and expenses.

### **DEPARTMENT BUSINESS:**

- a. Reviewed UW-Extension Revenues and Expenses for February 2016.
- b. Discussion and update on open positions:
  1. Hoffman reported that the WNEP Coordinators was hired and will be housed in Columbia County with a start date of April 2016. Educator to then be hired in the Fall/start of the school year 2016.
  2. Crops and Soils position – memorandum being drafted for the 60/40 position. Who's paying what portion being that it is a shared county position with Fond du Lac. The example was given for mileage, computer to work in both counties – who would be liable for these expenses and how much. Administrator Mielke asked if UW-Extension would consider having a "fixed" monthly vehicle allowance (Dodge ½, Fond du Lac ½ ) as an option.

c. Discussion, consideration and possibly take action concerning UW-Extension restructuring, nEXT Gen.:

1. Hoffman reported that he has attended two nEXT Gen. Project Steering Committee, PSC meetings – The PSC is discussing the function of the Project Planning Workgroups, PWG and the structure by which they will operate. The PSC hopes PWG's will be working in April. Implementation of nEXT Gen. will not likely occur until sometime in early 2017.

## **EDUCATORS' REPORTS:**

Hoffman: Hoffman shared that the recent Grant Writers workshop was successful. Twenty-one people completed the series and twenty-five more people are signed up when the class is offered again. He continued that there is an economic benefit to the county in grant dollars coming into the county through the non-profits. He shared that the office has its initial samples from residents to test for nitrates in their well water. He shared that the voluntary private well water testing program for residents in the northeastern part of the county is coming up in May. Lastly, he shared that the non-point runoff workshop meetings have been effective in raising awareness. The goal is to have a set of options presented to the Land Conservation Department Committee before spring field work.

Witzel: Witzel reported on the 4-H Speaking Contest held in the end of Feb. Youth are learning communication skills. This year there was a large number (12) youth in the 4-6 grade division with 4 in the 1-3 grade and 4 in the 7-9 grade division. The young people did a great job of sharing their readings with the audience at the competition. We also partnered with the Hustisford Library on the Readathon. There were about 100 youth participants this year with the Ag theme. Bonnie was the featured presenter of the day. Finally the leaders association put money into a scholarship line item and are meeting to select about 4 youth to receive scholarships this year.

Carroll: Carroll reported that she is training 75 childcare professionals throughout March and April using the evidence based curriculum *Raising a Thinking Child*. Carroll also reported that eParenting® Little Ones face to face workshop that she cocreated is complete and that she will be piloting the curriculum in Dodge County over the course of spring and summer. Carroll reported that she will be partnering with Fond du Lac County Family Living educator to put on a poverty simulation for Waupun Area School district. Carroll invited the committee to the Dodge County and City of Watertown CARES Coalition summit scheduled April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 8:00 am until 1:00 pm. Lunch is included and the summit is free of charge.

Borden: Borden celebrated the success of the Dodge County Senior Quizbowl Team who recently achieved top scores at the state competition. Their success has named them the first place team and they will go to Nebraska to compete nationally next January. Borden also shared that Amanda Young helped to facilitate the Meat Animal Quality Assurance Training at Family Learning Day. The team teaching approach was much appreciated and helped those in attendance in getting to know our new Dairy & Livestock Agent! Borden gave an update on the "Alice in Dairyland" program: briefing and announcement of this year's candidates coming up on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Crave Brothers Farm. Earlier in the day will be time spent together at the Horicon March Visitor Center where the candidates will have a photo shoot and time to explore. Upcoming Finale events will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and all wishing to purchase tickets should visit the Dodge County "Alice in Dairyland" website.

Young: Young reported that she is working with Land Conservation and UW extension agents in Dodge, Columbia, and Sauk counties to rejoinate the Columbia-Dodge Grazing network. The network has not held any pasture walks or their annual winter grazing meeting for the last year do to lack of personal in critical education roles. Plans are to host 1-2 pasture walks in each county this summer (one per month) with all pasture walks being advertized by each county, as a way to diverify and allow more options and oportunities for grazers to learn.

**COMMUNICATION:** None


**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next regularly scheduled Extension Committee meeting, April 20, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. at the UW-Extension Conference Room 1C, in the Dodge County Administration Building at 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before this committee, it was adjourned by Behl at 10:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gerald Adelmeyer, Secretary



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Allen Behl, Chairman